

S/N 09/331,376

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	FODSTAD et al.	Examiner:	Davis, M.
Serial No.:	09/331,376	Group Art Unit:	1642
Filed:	June 18, 1999	Docket No.:	7885.65USWO
Title:	METHOD FOR CHARACTERIZATION OF ABNORMAL CELLS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.18: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the paper(s), as described herein, are being transmitted via facsimile to : Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 24, 2002.

By: 
Name: L. Hill

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2002, Applicants submit the following response. Applicants also concurrently are submitting a Request for Continued Examination.

Remarks

Claims 1-4, 6-11, and 13-17 remain pending in this application. Reconsideration of the merits of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite for use of the language, "membrane-associated." Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The term "membrane-associated" is well known to those skilled in the art and is thus definite. One of skill in the art would understand "membrane-associated" to mean associated with the cell membrane. This term is understood by those of skill in the art to include those antigens that are on the extracellular surface of a cell. Such antigens can be wholly on the